

## **HHS OIG Spring 2024 Semi-Annual Report**

## Richard P. Kusserow | August 2024

The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG) is legally mandated to provide semiannual reports to Congress on its operations. They recently released their Spring 2024 report, covering October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. The OIG portfolio of responsibilities includes programs with more than \$2 trillion in annual federal government outlays that provide support to more than 150 million Americans. They reported during the period that their investigative and audit efforts identified \$2.76 billion in expected recoveries and receivables. They also issued 60 audits and 18 evaluation reports in which systemic weaknesses and opportunities were identified for improvement, along with 195 new recommendations that, if implemented, would foster sustainable program improvements and safeguards of taxpayer funds. The OIG made 1,201 referrals for prosecution, including 1,057 to the Department of Justice and 144 to state prosecutors. The OIG's referrals to these prosecuting authorities made prior to and during the reporting period, resulted in 312 indictments and criminal information. Investigations resulted in more than 712 civil and criminal actions during this reporting period, which includes settlements resulting from using the OIG's civil monetary penalty authorities and criminal convictions. They identified and excluded 1,795 bad actors from participation in federally funded programs during this reporting period, ensuring that taxpayer funds are not used for fraudulent purposes. Also reported was that during FY 2023, State Medicaid Fraud Control Units were responsible for 1,143 convictions, 436 civil settlements and judgments, and \$1.2 billion in recoveries.

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## **About the Author**

Richard P. Kusserow established Strategic Management Services, LLC, after retiring from being the DHHS Inspector General, and has assisted over 2,000 health care organizations and entities in developing, implementing and assessing compliance programs.